

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A guide device for use with a spinal plate having at least one pair of screw bores formed therein, the guide device comprising:

an elongate shaft having a proximal end and a distal end;

a guide member coupled to the distal end of the elongate shaft and including first and second lumens extending therethrough in fixed relation to one another; and

first and second opposed alignment tabs extending distally from opposed outer edges of opposed ends of the guide member such that the first and second lumens are positioned between the first and second alignment tabs, the first and second opposed alignment tabs being adapted to interact with a spinal plate to position the guide member with respect to the spinal plate such that the first and second lumens in the guide member are aligned with a pair of corresponding screw bores formed in the spinal plate.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) The guide device of claim 1, wherein the first and second opposed alignment tabs are adapted to non-fixedly interact with a spinal plate to align the guide member with the spinal plate.

4-6. (Canceled).

7. (Previously Presented) The guide device of claim 1, further comprising at least one protrusion that extends distally from the guide member and that is adapted to be disposed within a corresponding bore formed in the spinal plate.

8-10. (Canceled).

11. (Withdrawn) The guide device of claim 1, wherein the guide member has a substantially rectangular, elongate shape and the first and second lumens extend therethrough.

12. (Withdrawn) The guide device of claim 11, wherein the guide member includes opposed superior and inferior sides and opposed transverse sides, the transverse sides having a width that is less than a width of the superior and inferior sides.

13-15. (Canceled).

16. (Original) The guide device of claim 1, wherein a distal surface of the guide member has a shape that conforms to the shape of a spinal plate.

17. (Original) The guide device of claim 1, wherein the first and second lumens are positioned at an angle with respect to one another.

18. (Original) The guide device of claim 1, wherein the guide member comprises a first barrel having a lumen extending therethrough, and a second barrel having a lumen extending therethrough.

19. (Original) The guide device of claim 18, wherein the first and second barrels are positioned at an angle with respect to one another.

20-24. (Canceled).

25. (Previously Presented) The guide device of claim 1, wherein the first and second alignment tabs are adapted to loosely interact with a spinal plate such that the guide member can pivot with respect to the spinal plate.

26. (Withdrawn) The guide device of claim 1, wherein the first and second lumens have an adjustable length.

27. (Original) The guide device of claim 1, wherein the proximal end on the elongate shaft is

positioned at an angle with respect to a distal portion of the elongate shaft.

28. (Currently Amended) A guide device for use with a spinal plate having at least one screw bore formed therein, the guide device comprising:

an elongate shaft having a proximal end and a distal end; and

a guide member coupled to the distal end of the elongate shaft and including first and second lumens extending therethrough; and

first and second opposed alignment tabs extending distally from opposed outer edges of opposed ends of the guide member such that at least one lumen is positioned between the first and second alignment tabs, the first and second opposed alignment tabs being adapted to non-fixedly interact with an edge of a spinal plate without engaging the spinal plate to position the guide member with respect to the spinal plate such that the first and second lumens in the guide member are aligned with at least one corresponding screw bore formed in the spinal plate.

29-32. (Canceled).

33. (Previously Presented) The guide device of claim 28, wherein the guide member comprises first and second barrels having the first and second lumens formed therein.

34. (Withdrawn) The guide device of claim 33, wherein at least one of the first and second barrels has an adjustable trajectory such that the at least one barrel can pivot about a point on a longitudinal axis thereof.

35-51. (Canceled)

52. (Previously Presented) A guide device for use with a spinal plate having at least one pair of screw bores formed therein, the guide device comprising:

an elongate shaft having a proximal end and a distal end;

a guide member coupled to the distal end of the elongate shaft and including first and second

lumens extending therethrough in fixed relation to one another;

at least one alignment tab extending distally from the guide member, the at least one alignment tab being adapted to interact with a spinal plate to position the guide member with respect to the spinal plate such that the first and second lumens in the guide member are aligned with a pair of corresponding screw bores formed in the spinal plate; and

at least one protrusion that extends distally from the guide member and that is adapted to be disposed within a corresponding bore formed in the spinal plate.

53. (Previously Presented) The guide device of claim 52, wherein the at least one alignment tab comprises first and second alignment tabs extending distally from opposed outer edges of opposed ends of the guide member.

54. (Previously Presented) The guide device of claim 52, wherein the at least one tab is adapted to non-fixedly interact with a spinal plate to align the guide member with the spinal plate.

55. (Previously Presented) The guide device of claim 52, wherein the at least one alignment tab is adapted to prevent rotation between the guide member and a spinal plate when the guide member is mated to a spinal plate.

56. (Previously Presented) The guide device of claim 55, wherein the at least one alignment tab comprises an oval protrusion that extends distally from a distal end of the guide member.

57. (Previously Presented) The guide device of claim 52, wherein a distal surface of the guide member has a shape that conforms to the shape of a spinal plate.

58. (Previously Presented) The guide device of claim 52, wherein the first and second lumens are positioned at an angle with respect to one another.

59. (Previously Presented) The guide device of claim 52, wherein the guide member comprises a first barrel having the first lumen extending therethrough, and a second barrel having the second lumen

extending therethrough.

60. (Previously Presented) The guide device of claim 59, wherein the first and second barrels are positioned at an angle with respect to one another.

61. (Previously Presented) The guide device of claim 52, wherein the at least one alignment tab is adapted to loosely interact with a spinal plate such that the guide member can pivot with respect to the spinal plate.

62. (Previously Presented) The guide device of claim 52, wherein the proximal end on the elongate shaft is positioned at an angle with respect to a distal portion of the elongate shaft.

63. (New) A guide device for use with a spinal plate having at least one pair of screw bores formed therein, the guide device comprising:

an elongate shaft having a proximal end and a distal end;

a guide member coupled to the distal end of the elongate shaft and including first and second lumens extending therethrough; and

first and second opposed alignment tabs extending distally from opposed outer edges of opposed ends of the guide member, the first and second opposed alignment tabs having a concave inner surface such that the first and second opposed alignment tabs are adapted to interact with a convex portion of a spinal plate to position the guide member with respect to the spinal plate such that the first and second lumens in the guide member are aligned with a pair of corresponding screw bores formed in the spinal plate.